MEDIA ADVISORY October 17, 2014

Contact: Pastor Russell McReynolds Pastor, Faith United Methodist Church

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## FAITH LEADERS ISSUE "NOT ONE MORE LIFE" CHALLENGE FOR OCTOBER 26

LANSING - In an effort to improve the lives of the more than 40,000 Mid-Michigan residents living with asthma, Pastor Russell McReynolds of **Faith United Methodist Church** and Bishop David Maxwell of **Elizer Temple Church** call on area congregations and neighborhood groups to see who can bring the most people to the "Not One More Life" Asthma Screening & Education Challenge. Faith United is joining with the **Mid-Michigan Asthma Coalition** (MMAC) to host this special challenge event on Sunday, October 26, from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. Winners in each category will get special recognition for their commitment to improving the lives of people with asthma. The event is open to team and individual participants of all ages, races, incomes, abilities and other forms of difference.

The program on October 26 is offered free of charge. It takes 30 to 45 minutes to complete. It includes a breathing test, consultation with asthma & allergy doctors, flu shots, health insurance sign-ups, displays, Halloween games & prizes, gift-card raffles, and free pumpkins and refreshments.

Asthma is a chronic inflammation of the airways. Asthma attacks can include wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness and coughing. People with frequent attacks, or who use rescue inhaler more than two times per week, have *uncontrolled* asthma that can be improved with simple steps. Past participants in "Not One More Life" report better controlled asthma following the event. This means less coughing, better sleep, fewer respiratory complications from everyday colds and viruses, greater participation in sports and other exercise, less use of rescue inhaler medications, and fewer doctors' and emergency room visits. There are more than 800 asthma hospitalizations among Mid-Michigan residents each year. African-Americans are three times more likely to die from asthma, and asthma is the number one reason kids miss school.

WHAT: "Not One More Life" Church & Neighborhood Challenge

WHO: Pastor Russell McReynolds, Faith United Methodist Church

Bishop David Maxwell, Elizer Temple Church

Lawrence Hennessey, MD, Okemos Allergy Center

Satish Gupta, MD, Allergist & Immunologist Dave Gupta, MD, Allergist & Immunologist Marti Gilmet, RT (Respiratory Therapist) And other MMAC partners and volunteers

WHEN: Sunday, October 26, 2014, 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 South Waverly Road

More information at www.midmichasthma.org